

Mountain Ash
Urban District Council

ANNUAL
REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health

1950

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer
of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
THIRTY-FIRST DECEMBER
ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND FIFTY

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING :

Second Tuesday in each Month at 5.15 p.m.

Chairman :

Councillor W. M. REES.

Members :

Councillor S. T. GRIFFITHS	Councillor A. H. MAGGS
Councillor Miss M. GEORGE	Councillor J. LEWIS
Councillor Mrs. M. LEWIS	Councillor E. C. MEREDITH
Councillor Mrs. L. WATTS	Councillor S. WRIGHT
Councillor A. S. J. HILLIER	Councillor E. A. BENNETT
Councillor Mrs. M. BATH	Councillor S. BLAKE
Councillor W. I. JONES	Councillor R. V. NELMS
Councillor A. MORGAN	Councillor E. FROWEN
Councillor H. J. BOYCE	Councillor W. HAZELL
Councillor E. HAMER	(Retired)
(Retired).	

Staff of Public Health Department

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	J. LL. WILLIAMS,
(part time)	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.P.H. (Lond.)
<i>Senior Sanitary Inspector</i>	W. J. WATTERS
<i>Sanitary Inspectors</i>	{ G. M. JAMES W. C. GRIFFITHS
<i>Clerk</i>	H. J. THOMAS

Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OXFORD STREET,

MOUNTAIN ASH,

11th September, 1951.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash
Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary condition of the District, and of the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department.

The Tables of Vital Statistics for the year 1950 are included in this Report.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (in acres)	...	...	...	10,504
Population	...	...	...	31,750
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950) according to the Rate Books	...	...	8,311	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£105,551
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£385	

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

			Total.	Male.	Female
Live Births :	Legitimate ...	...	505	268	237
„	Illegitimate	...	9	5	4
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population 16.19					
Still-births :	Legitimate ...	...	18	12	6
„	Illegitimate	...	1	—	1
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births registered 35.6					
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated average population 13.92					
Deaths	...	...	442	233	209
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—					
			Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.	
No. 30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	2	3.7	

BIRTHS

The number of Births registered in the district during the year was 514. The number of males was 273, and females 241. This gives a Birth Rate of 16.19 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 31,750 (Registrar General).

The Birth-rate for the year is 0.39 higher than the rate for England and Wales, 1.41 lower than the rate for the County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 0.51 lower than the rate for towns ranging 25,000 to 50,000 inhabitants (Mountain Ash is placed in this group) at the census taken in 1931.

The number of illegitimate children registered was 9. This is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 19.4 per 1,000 births registered.

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year 1950 was 25, 11 males and 14 females. This gives an infantile death-rate of 48.64 per 1,000 births registered, and 0.7 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

The infantile death-rate of 48.64 per 1,000 births registered is 2.64 higher than for 1949.

The neo-natal mortality rate (the number of deaths during the first month of life) was 29.18 per 1,000 births, and 60 per cent. of the infantile death rate.

I append a table showing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death rate per 1,000 births for the past ten years. Also a table comparing the Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality for Mountain Ash Urban Area with other areas for 1950 :—

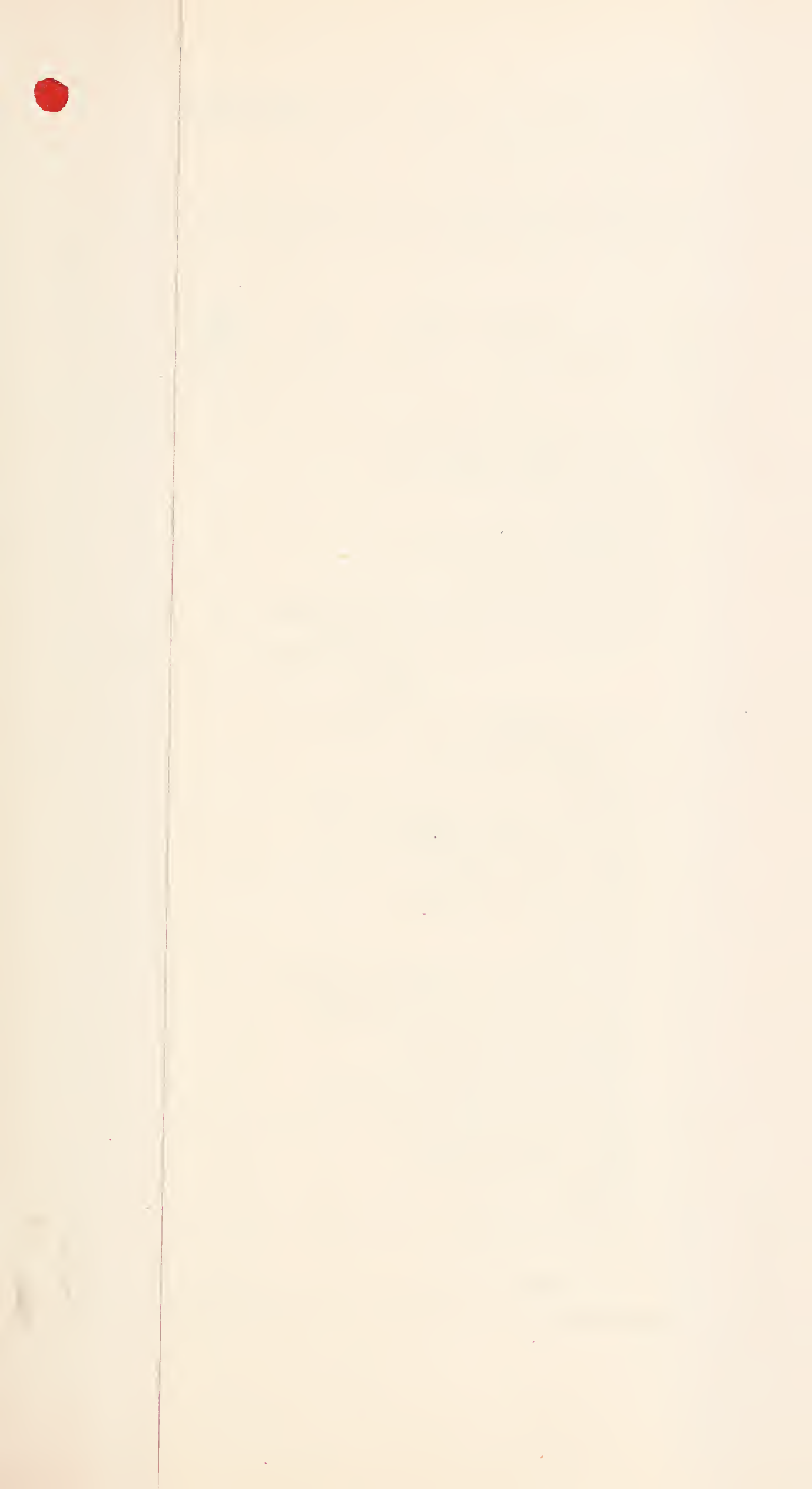
<i>Year</i>	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Number of Deaths	41	28	27	33	35
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	65.0	45.7	46.4	51.9	57.0
<i>Year</i>	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Number of Deaths	32	48	30	25	5
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	50.0	73.0	46.0	46.0	48.64

SOURCE.	INFANT MORTALITY.		NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	Deaths under four weeks.	Rate per 1,000 live births.
England and Wales	—	29.8	—	—
Glamorgan County	467	39.18	285	23.91
Urban Districts ...	359	40.47	210	23.68
Rural Districts ...	108	35.41	75	24.59
MOUNTAIN ASH ...	25	48.64	15	29.18



INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 4 weeks and under 3 months</i>	<i>3-6 3 months and under 6 months</i>	<i>6-9 6 months and under 9 months</i>	<i>9-12 9 months and under 12 months</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other T.B. Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	3
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia all forms	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Accidental	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth ...	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Other Causes	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	4
Ill-Defined Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL ...	8	5	1	1	15	5	3	—	2	25



DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1950, classified by age and causes.

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

Cause of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District												
	Under One year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years	4 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 20 years	20 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	4	4	18
Tuberculosis—Other Forms	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	6
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	11	19
" " Lung, Bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	5
" " Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	5
" " Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	7	13	23
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	33	48
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	11	35	49
Hypertension with heart disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	6
Other Heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	16	38	57
Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	16	20
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	2	10
Bronchitis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	29	42
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	3	14
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Congenital malformations	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	44	66
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	4
All other accidents	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	3	11
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	4
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	25	—	2	—	1	3	1	1	17	21	115	256	442

Other Glamorgan Districts :—

Aberdare	...	...	18	32.85	11	20.07
Barry	...	...	17	24.11	11	15.60
Bridgend	...	...	9	38.14	6	25.42
Caerphilly	...	...	42	54.62	17	22.11
Neath Rural	...	...	22	33.33	16	24.24
Ogmore & Garw	...	...	16	45.33	10	28.33
Pontypridd	...	...	31	51.67	21	35.00
Rhondda	...	...	82	45.50	43	23.86

STILL BIRTHS

The number of still births registered during the year was 19, and is 3.5 per cent. of the total number of births registered.

DEATHS (All Ages)

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 442. This gives a death-rate of 13.92 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 31,750.

The causes of death in the various age groups were as set out in the following tables :—

Notifiable Diseases

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Number of Cases recorded on Form 118e (cor- rected figures)</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	66	66	8	—
Diphtheria	5	3	5	—
Pneumonia	42	42	—	10
Measles	434	434	2	1
Whooping Cough	36	36	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3	3	—
Encephalitis	1	1	1	—
Erysipelas	2	2	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	1	1	—
Tuberculosis :—				
(a) Pulmonary { Males ...	19	—	5	10
{ Females ...	25	—	5	8
{ Total ...	44	—	10	18
(b) Non- { Males ...	5	—	2	3
Pulmonary { Females ...	2	—	—	3
{ Total ...	7	—	2	6

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1950. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2 years</i>	<i>2 to 3 years</i>	<i>3 to 4 years</i>	<i>4 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 10 years</i>	<i>10 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 20 years</i>	<i>20 to 35 years</i>	<i>35 to 45 years</i>	<i>45 to 65 years</i>	<i>65 yrs. & over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	—	3	5	8	17	23	6	—	2	2	—	—	66
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	5
Pneumonia ...	3	2	1	1	6	8	1	3	3	5	6	3	42
Measles ...	14	50	58	87	97	122	4	—	1	—	1	—	434
Whooping Cough ...	2	7	2	8	7	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ...	20	62	66	107	128	164	13	5	6	8	8	3	590

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1950. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darvan- las</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysy- bwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Cases removed to Hospital.</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	3	6	12	21	21	3	66	8
Diphtheria ...	2	—	2	—	—	1	5	5
Pneumonia ...	6	3	8	25	—	—	42	—
Measles ...	79	41	129	183	2	—	434	2
Whooping Cough ...	7	8	10	8	3	—	36	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	3
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
TOTAL ...	98	58	161	213	26	4	590	20



Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1950.

Name of Institution	W A R D S													
	MALES.							FEMALES.						
	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darranlas</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw- ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysybwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darranlas</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw- ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysybwl</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pontsarn Hospital	1	—	1	—	2	—	4	1	1	1	3	6	—	12
Glan Ely Hospital	—	2	—	2	2	3	9	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Sully Hospital	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Mardy Hospital	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	1	—	3
North Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cardiff Isolation Hospital	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	4	3	3	6	3	22	1	2	1	5	12	2	23

Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1950.

Ages		W A R D S														TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY		
		MALES							FEMALES									
		Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Males	Females	
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
	5 to 10 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	10 to 15 years	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	15 to 20 years	...	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	6	—	—		
	20 to 25 years	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	5	—	2		
	25 to 35 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	5	8	1	3		
	35 to 45 years	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	2	1		
	45 to 55 years	...	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	2		
	55 to 65 years	...	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—		
65 years and over	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—			
TOTAL		...	3	2	4	5	3	2	19	3	1	2	4	14	1	25	10	8
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
	5 to 10 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
	10 to 15 years	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—		
	15 to 20 years	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—		
	20 to 25 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	25 to 35 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	35 to 45 years	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2		
	45 to 55 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	55 to 65 years	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
65 years and over	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
TOTAL		...	—	—	1	2	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	3

TUBERCULOSIS

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 population for 1950 was 0.56, and the Other Tuberculosis Diseases Death Rate per 1,000 population was 0.18.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district for the past ten years :—

	CASES NOTIFIED		DEATHS.	
	Pulmonary	Other Forms.	Pulmonary	Other Forms.
1941 ...	64	14	28	3
1942 ...	53	14	28	4
1943 ...	50	10	30	3
1944 ...	70	16	21	4
1945 ...	63	7	22	4
1946 ...	60	8	22	5
1947 ...	48	5	20	6
1948 ...	49	10	20	2
1949 ...	34	6	18	—
1950 ...	44	7	18	6

I append tables showing the Age and Ward Distribution of all cases notified, and the number treated at the various sanatoria :—

Laboratory Work

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

As in previous years, arrangements have been made with the Glamorgan County Council for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area at the Public Health Laboratory Service, The Parade, Cardiff.

Medical Practitioners in the district have been informed that outfits (excluding Sputum outfits) for the collection and transmission of specimens can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the results :—

DISEASE SUSPECTED.	Number of Specimens.	Results.	
		Positive.	Negative.
Diphtheria :—			
Throat Swabs ...	5	—	5
Tuberculosis :—			
Sputum ...	10	1	9
Dysentery :—			
Faeces ...	1	—	1

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is under the control of the Council, and, during the year there was a plentiful and continuous supply which was satisfactory in both quantity and quality. All the houses in the area have a piped supply of water from the Council's mains, apart from the outlying farms and premises. In addition, the Trading Estates at Hirwaun and Ynysboeth are supplied. The sources, gathering grounds and reservoirs, apart from one, which is situate at Penderyn, in Brecknonshire, are within the Mountain Ash Urban Area, and the capacity of the reservoirs is as follows :—

Penderyn Reservoir	...	132,000,000	gallons
Clydach Reservoir	...	11,550,000	„
Darranlas Reservoir	...	3,500,000	„
Perthcelyn Reservoir	...	30,000,000	„
Buarth y Capel Reservoir		500,000	„
Gilfachrhyd Reservoir	...	60,000	„
Cefnpennar Reservoir	...	23,000	„

In addition to the above reservoirs, there is an intake at Rhydygwreiddyn, Llanwonno, which is used occasionally.

The source of each supply is of an upland surface type, and tends to be soft in character. One supply of water, namely, the Darranlas Reservoir, which serves the main part of the town of Mountain Ash, is treated by chlorination and sand filtration, but the other sources are chlorinated only.

The water (raw and treated) from the sources in general use were sampled once monthly and, on occasions more frequently. Those sources not in general use were sampled when that water was used.

190 samples (95 Chemical and 95 Bacteriological) were taken and submitted to the Analyst at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for examination.

The following table gives a summarised report of the Analyst on the bacteriological examinations :—

	Number	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
CLYDACH :				
Raw.....	12	5	2	5
Treated	15	13	—	2
DARRANLAS :				
Raw.....	12	2	4	6
Treated	13	11	—	2
PERTHCELYN :				
Raw.....	8	6	2	—
Treated	10	10	—	—
PENDERYN :				
Raw.....	7	1	1	5
Treated	7	5	—	2
BUARTH Y CAPEL :				
Raw.....	4	2	2	—
Treated	2	2	—	—
RHYDYGWREIDDYN				
Raw.....	3	1	—	2
Treated	2	2	—	—
TOTAL	95	60	11	24

No special action, apart from the usual precautions for the safety of the water, was taken.

PLUMBO SOLVENCY.

The whole of the sources are soft and, there is, therefore a danger of action on lead. All supplies are treated with chalk to eliminate this danger.

SWIMMING BATHS.

4 samples (2 chemical and 2 bacteriological) were taken during the year and proved to be satisfactory on examination. Routine treatment of the water with Copper Sulphate was carried out to obviate the growth of algae.

The Swimming Baths, owned by the Council, is situated in the Gwernifor Grounds, and is the only swimming bath in the area. The water area of the pool is 3,600 sq. ft. and the capacity is 150,000 gallons. Water is supplied from the Council's water mains and there is a continuous flow of water through an efficient Water Purification Plant every six hours.

Inspection & Supervision of Food

During the year and as part of the Clean Food Campaign all premises used for the sale, preparation and storage of food have been inspected. Occupiers were interviewed and instructed as to the requirements necessary to bring their premises up to the required standard.

26 Informal Notices were served upon owners of such premises residing outside the area, drawing their attention to the requirements.

All shops where meat is sold and prepared for sale were inspected during the year. Motor lorries and vans used for the transportation and sale of meat were also kept under observation.

In one instance it was found necessary to warn a meat distributor concerning the condition of his person and vehicle.

THE ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment, etc.) REGULATIONS 1947.

All premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected frequently and they now comply with the above Regulations.

53 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

Provisional Grade 1 (Satisfactory)	Provisional Grade 2 (Fair)	Provisional Grade 3 (Un- satisfactory)	Provisional Grade 4 (Very Un- unsatisfactory)
29	10	13	1

All vehicles used in connection with the retail sale of Ice Cream in this area now conform to the standards approved by the Council.

These standards include washing facilities, protection of ice cream and the cleanliness of the vehicle.

There is a steady and satisfying improvement in the standard of Food Hygiene throughout the area and this is very largely due to the work of the Sanitary Inspectors.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Total number of outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

J. LL. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Summary of Work done by the Sanitary Inspectors

Houses and premises inspected and re-visited 3,486

Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public
Health Act, 1936,—

Informal	..	..	..	..	..	..	503
Statutory	..	..	..	..	..	..	313

General Repairs—

Chimneys and Fireplaces	..	..	..	..	201
Roofs	..	..	..	..	343
Eavesgutters and downpipes	..	..	..	..	361
External walls	..	..	..	..	63
Windows and doors	..	..	..	..	155
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings	..	..	..	..	192
Floors	..	..	..	..	83
Internal staircases	..	..	..	..	12
Skirtings	..	..	..	..	19
Pantries	..	..	..	..	51
Yards and steps	..	..	..	..	161
Dry areas provided	..	..	..	..	5
Wash houses and coal houses	..	..	..	..	18
Boundary walls	..	..	..	..	84
Dirty premises	..	..	..	..	13
Fowl cots removed	..	..	..	..	2
Accumulations	..	..	..	..	12
Repairs to water service	35

Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936,—

Number of Notices served	47
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Drainage—

Renewed and relaid	139
Drains tested	155
Wash up sinks provided and repaired	6

Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936

Number of Notices served	171
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Sanitary Conveniences—

General repairs	196
Water flushing apparatus repaired and renewed	63
Cesspools cleansed	..	..	..	..	1
New sanitary conveniences erected	..	..	..	..	4

Houses owned by Local Authority—

During the year all Council Houses were inspected jointly by your Sanitary Inspectors and Rent Collectors. Generally the houses were kept in a satisfactory condition. Several occupants were warned respecting the cleanliness of their premises and, in a few instances it was found necessary to disinfest the premises.

Legal Proceedings—

During the year six summonses under Section 93, four under Section 45, and two under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were taken for non-abatement of nuisances.

In the case of the summonses under Section 93, four were adjourned for one month, and Court Orders to complete the work in six weeks were issued for the other two.

A fine of £1 was imposed in the case of one of the summonses under Section 45, the other two being adjourned for one month. Both summonses under Section 39 were adjourned for one month.

Factory Act, 1947—

Number of bakehouses on register	..	..	..	13
Number of factories on register	..	..	..	91
Number of visits .. .. .	..	..	..	274
Number of Notices served	..	..	..	2
Number of outworkers .. .. .	..	..	..	6

Fish Fryers—

Number in district	..	..	..	..	27
Number of visits	..	..	..	..	104
Number of Notices served	..	..	..	..	4

Infectious Diseases—

Number of cases visited	..	..	..	..	78
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	66
Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5
Cerebro spinal meningitis	..	..	..	..	1
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2
Acute Polimyelitis	..	..	..	..	3
Encephalitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1

Disinfection—

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease..	90
Number of dirty or verminous houses sprayed or fumigated	47

FOOD AND DRUGS (Milk and Dairies) ACT, 1944.
The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Powers of supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination are vested in the Local Authority :—

Number of Distributors on Register	...	25
Number of Dairies in Area	... ..	18
Number of Visits	... ..	92
Number of Notices Served	... ..	1

74 samples of milk (73 by the Sanitary Inspectors and 1 by the County Sanitary Inspector, under Defence Regulation 55G) were taken during the year and sent to the Laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

6 samples were found to be unsatisfactory. In these instances, the dairies were visited and inspected and, where necessary, advice given with the result that subsequent samples were satisfactory.

6 samples were submitted for examination for Tubercle Bacilli and found to be satisfactory.

MILK (Special Designation) ACT, 1949
Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

No dealers licences were issued.

**MILK (Special Designation) Pasteurised and Sterilised
Milk) REGULATIONS, 1949.**

18 dealers licences authorising the use of the Special Designation ' Pasteurised ' and 12 licences for the Special Designation ' Tuberculin Tested (pasteurised) ' were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

No dealers licences were issued for the use of the Special Designation ' Sterilised. '

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Notices of intended slaughtering of 110 cottagers pigs were received by the Public Health Department and the carcasses and organs were inspected by the sanitary inspectors.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	Not known
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	110
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned . .	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.91
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned . .	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	3.64

A total of 1 ton, 14 cwts., 24 lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

				Weight in lbs.
Pork	..	..	..	350
† Imported and English Beef	..	..	..	228 $\frac{3}{4}$
* Bacon	..	..	..	56
* Cheese	..	..	..	61 $\frac{3}{4}$
Jam	..	..	..	20
Dried Fruit	..	..	..	169
Tinned Goods	..	..	..	1,074
Tea	..	..	..	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	245
Cereals	..	..	..	169
Sausages	..	..	..	71 $\frac{3}{4}$
Wet Fish	..	..	..	98
Poultry	..	..	..	12
Milk Powder	..	..	..	448
Flour	..	..	..	384
Cake Mixture	..	..	..	412

* Returned to Ministry of Food agents through trade channels.

† Returned to Wholesale Distributors, Pontypridd.

BAKERY, GLYN STREET, YNYSYBWL.

The above mentioned bakery, owned by the Ynysybwl Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd. was severely damaged by fire and we were requested by the Ministry of Food and the Manager of the Society to examine the foodstuffs on the premises.

A total of 14 tons, 3 cwts., and 102 lbs. was found to be unfit for human consumption and was disposed of as follows :—

- (1) 6 tons 8 cwts. 81 lbs. disposed of by the Ministry of Food.
- (2) 1 ton 36 lbs. went for animal food (arranged by the Society).
- (3) 6 tons 14 cwts. 97 lbs. destroyed by Public Health Department.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pets Act, 1949

The above mentioned Act came into force on the 31st March, 1950, repealing the provisions of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

During the year work on the destruction of rats and mice was continued. Private dwellings were treated free of cost and 50% of the costs incurred in carrying out this work were recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No grant aid is made by the Ministry in respect of business or commercial premises, and all the expenditure incurred has to be recovered from the owners or occupiers of these premises.

One full time Rodent Operative was employed and details of the work carried out were as follows :—

(1) Number of premises visited	...	...	1970
		Rats.	Mice.
Number of dwelling houses treated	...	78	52
Number of business premises treated	...	16	4
Number of Schools treated	...	6	1
Number of Canteens treated	...	10	1
Number of Cinemas treated	...	2	
Number of refuse tips treated	...	13	
Number of watercourses treated	...	15	
Number of embankments treated	...	24	
Number of piggeries treated	...	4	
Number of sewer beds treated	...	7	

BLOCK TREATMENTS :—

The following block treatments were carried out during the year :—

- (a) Imperial Stores, Abercynon, adjacent river embankments, and sewer manholes. The estimated kill was 110 rats.

- (b) Nos. 207 and 208 Abercynon Road, Abercynon, gardens, embankments, and sewer manholes, with an estimated kill of 15 rats.
- (c) Nos. 172, 174, and 176 Robert Street, Ynysybwł, water-course at rear and 4 nearby sewer manholes—estimated kill 38 rats.
- (d) Salvage Depot, builder's yard and disused canal, Glancynon, Abercynon and nearby sewer manholes. Estimated kill 70 rats.
- (e) Nos. 42, 44, 46 and 48 Robert Street, Ynysybwł, surface water drain and sewer manholes. Estimated kill 55 rats.
- (f) Penrhiwceiber Infants School and nearby sewer manholes. Estimated kill 50 rats.
- (g) Nos. 1, 3. and 5 London Street, Mountain Ash, backyards, gardens and sewer manholes, with an estimated kill of 23 rats.
- (h) Caegarw Infants School and sewer manholes—estimated kill 47 rats.
- (i) Ynysboeth Trading Estate, factories, canteens, water-course, and river embankments with an estimated kill of 102 rats.

The estimated kill of rats throughout the area, excluding the sewer, for the year, was as follows :—

Moutain Ash	...	980
Abercynon	...	1407
Ynysybwł	...	508
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Total	...	2895
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All estimated kills are worked out in accordance with the formula of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

SEWER TREATMENT :—

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area, comprising 612 manholes, was carried out, one from 5th to 28th June, 1950, and the other from 27th November, 1950 to 20th December, 1950.

347 manholes showed a pre-bait take and 49 manholes showed complete pre-bait take on one or both of the days. As there is no check on the poison take in sewers, it is impossible to work out the estimated kill.

The treatments were carried out by the Rodent Operative, assisted by three temporary men obtained by the Surveyor's Department.

All sewer beds and refuse tips were treated at the same time as the sewers. These treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The bait used in the first treatment was Sausage Rusk and the Poison Zinc Phosphide, and the second treatment, the bait was Bread Mash and the poison Arsenious Oxide.

The nature and development of the Mountain Ash Urban Area and the close proximity of the dwellings, etc. to the river makes rodent infestation and re-infestation inevitable and will necessitate constant survey, treatment and supervision.

W. J. WATTERS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector

